

TO ASK DISSOLUTION OF BENEFIT DISTRICT

Petition Circulated Among Landholders in Midway Neighborhood.

TO COURT MONDAY?

County Judges Must Decide Upon the Matter Later.

Discontent over the road situation in the Midway special benefit district that has been brewing for a year has crystallized into action and steps toward the dissolution of the district are being taken.

Appetition to dissolve the district is being circulated and word has reached the courthouse that the petition will be presented to the County Court Monday.

Signatures of the owners of at least two-thirds of the land in the district are now on the petition, persons from the community declare. Complaints are made that although the people of the section are paying high taxes, the work on the roads is unsatisfactory. Residents of the district assert that the money has been spent on the main highway between Columbia and Rocheport and that the lateral roads have not been worked enough.

The Midway special benefit district is about 7 miles long and four or five miles wide. With the exception of a slight gap a few miles out of this city, the district extends from the Columbia district to a point the other side of Rocheport.

Last year the district voted \$18,000 in bonds, which amount the state would duplicate. It is understood that about \$10,000 worth of the bonds have already been sold. When the district was formed it was taken out of the jurisdiction of the County Court and entered under the supervision of commissioners.

A large number of the residents of the district are dissatisfied with the way the commissioners have handled the work, it is said, and wish to revert to the old type of districts supervised by overseers responsible to the County Court.

If things go smoothly for the petitioners it will be several weeks before the plan can possibly be consummated. After the petition has been brought before the court that body will order the clerk to give public notice of the petition for four weeks, then disorganization of the district will be taken up by the court.

FORGETS ABOUT ENTERING BANK

Although Seen Breaking Door, Man Says He Doesn't Remember.

When T. Fred Whitesides, sheriff, mentions the breaking into the Farmers' and Merchants' Bank of Centralia to a man who gives James Clark as his name, Clark suffers a lapse of memory, although he was seen committing the deed by a number of Centralians.

The man is now confined to the county jail. George Starrett prosecuting attorney, who has just returned from an out-of-town trip, will take the case up at once, he said this afternoon. Clark is 36 years old.

Clark broke the glass in the door of the bank with two large stones, weighing about 50 pounds each. When an officer reached the building the man was behind the counter. Clark jumped behind a desk just in time to dodge a bullet. The officer went to summon aid and caught Clark as he was about to leave the bank. Clark says these things are foreign to his memory.

The man told the officers the last place he remembers of being in was Clark, Mo. The man was unarmed when he was taken prisoner. There was no means of identifying him about his person.

STEPHENS MAY GET MORE

Baptist Says \$350,000 Fund Is a Mere Starter.

Dr. James M. Wood, president of Stephens College, said this morning that while he was in Kansas City recently the news that Stephens College was to receive \$350,000 as an endowment fund was positively verified by a member of the Educational Board of the Northern Baptist Convention. "Not only will your school receive this amount, but it will receive help in the future that will make this \$350,000 look like a mere starter," the man told Doctor Wood.

Sisters Return to Okmulgee.

Misses Laura and Theta Searcy left last night for Okmulgee, Okla., where they are both teaching. Miss Laura Searcy has been in Oklahoma since September, but her sister only recently took a position there, having formerly been a member of the faculty of the University High School.

William Southern Jr., to Speak Here.

William Southern Jr., editor of the Independence Examiner, will come to Columbia next Tuesday to speak to the students in the School of Journalism.

THE WEATHER

For Columbia and Vicinity: Generally fair tonight and Saturday. Slightly colder tonight; moderating Saturday. Lowest temperature tonight 5 or 10 above zero.

For Missouri: Generally fair tonight and Saturday. Somewhat colder south portion tonight; rising temperature Saturday. Shippers' Forecast: Within a radius of 200 miles of Columbia the lowest temperature during the next 36 hours will be about 12 west; zero north; 10 east; and 18 south.

Weather Conditions. There has been moderate snowfall over the northern and central portions of Missouri, in parts of the Ohio Valley and lower Lake region, and upper Missouri Valley; rain has fallen in Florida, Georgia, and South Carolina. Elsewhere mostly fair weather has prevailed.

Temperatures are below the seasonal average in all sections, except the extreme upper part of the Missouri watershed, and in Alberta, where the weather is quite mild. In Minnesota, Wisconsin, and Michigan temperatures are from 12 to 26 below zero.

A moderate snowfall covers the highways in the northern half of Missouri. Generally fair weather will prevail over Saturday, with rising temperature Saturday.

Local Data.

The highest temperature in Columbia yesterday was 27, and the lowest last night was 10. Precipitation .07. A year ago yesterday the highest temperature was 19 and the lowest was 3. Precipitation .00. Sun rose today 7:29 a. m. Sun sets 4:38 p. m. Moon sets 3:40 a. m.

The Temperature Today.

7 a. m.	13	12 noon	13
8 a. m.	14	1 p. m.	15
9 a. m.	12	2 p. m.	15
10 a. m.	11	3 p. m.	16
11 a. m.	12	3:30 p. m.	17

KATY CARS INTO RIVER

Fireman Killed and Engineer May Die as Result of Rocheport Wreck.

Passenger train No. 10 on the main line of the M. K. & T. Railroad between Texas and St. Louis was derailed early yesterday morning four and one-half miles east of Rocheport when the engine struck a large boulder that had rolled from the bluff above.

M. D. Hulen of Mokane, the fireman, was crushed to death and William Evans of Sedalia, the engineer, was seriously injured.

Although three cars rolled into the river and several others were derailed no passengers were injured. Evans was taken to the hospital at Sedalia for treatment. It is thought his injuries will prove fatal.

The accident occurred on a curve where the track runs between a bluff and the Missouri River. Trains are expected to resume the normal schedules today.

Killed by Wabash Train.

ST. LOUIS, Jan. 2.—Eugene R. Francisco, 74 years old, traveling auditor for the Wabash Railroad for 40 years, was killed here this morning. Francisco was on the station platform waiting for the westbound Moberly accommodation. A hand rail on one of the passenger coaches struck his head, knocking him to the platform. His skull was fractured.

FISHBURN TO LOSE LEFT EYE

Victim of Accident on Wabash Track Is Slightly Better.

J. R. Fishburn, who was injured recently when a Wabash train struck an automobile in which he was riding, is reported to be some better this morning. His condition is still serious, however, and in case he recovers from the injuries it is believed that he will lose the use of his left eye.

WINS K. OF C SCHOLARSHIP

Ralph Reed of Cape Girardeau Will Come to University.

The Knights of Columbus scholarship at the University of Missouri has been awarded to Ralph Reed, son of Mr. and Mrs. J. C. Reed of Cape Girardeau. The scholarship provides for a four-year course in academic and technical work and two years' work in graduate work. It is one of a hundred given by the Knights of Columbus but the only one given in Missouri.

Mr. Reed was a member of the Sixth Marines and fought in the Battle of Chateau Thierry.

NEW SNOW CALLS THE HUNTERS

Many Take Out Licenses to Pursue County Rabbits.

Rabbit hunting in Boone County was given impetus by the snow which fell last night, and a run on hunting licenses is being registered at the office of Charles W. Davis, county clerk. Yesterday and early today twenty county licenses and two state licenses were sold. I. R. Hicks of Centuria bought the first license New Year's Day.

Hunters say game is plentiful in the county.

Back From Relative's Funeral.

George S. Starrett and Thomas V. Starrett have returned from Wichita, Kan., where they attended the funeral of a relative.

Speed Holidays in Indianapolis.

J. Q. Morehead and grandson, Searcy Morehead, have returned from Indianapolis, where they spent the holidays.

ILLINOIS WARS ON REDS; 278 ARRESTED

State's Attorney Expects to Deport or Imprison Everyone Taken.

SAYS U. S. HINDERED

Hoynes Charges Attorney-General Palmer Withheld Promised Aid.

By United Press.

CHICAGO, Jan. 2.—A grand jury investigation of red activity is being planned today by Maclay Hoynes, state's attorney, following the arrest of 278 alleged revolutionists in 300 raids here in the last twenty-four hours.

Hoynes stated that he believed his investigators had gathered enough evidence to deport or imprison everyone caught in the raids. Prosecutions will be started under the new Illinois anti-red laws.

The raids continued today. Several leaders, including "Big Bill" Haywood, for whom warrants have been issued, were not in custody at noon today.

Federal agents had planned to cooperate with the police in the raids, Hoynes said. Just before the hour for the raids to begin, Hoynes received word from Department of Justice agents, asking that the campaign be held up for fear it would interfere with the government's fight against the reds. This order, according to Hoynes, came from Attorney-General A. Mitchell Palmer's office.

Hoynes declared today in a formal statement that if the raids had not been carried out as scheduled the fruit of five months' investigation by local officials and government agents would have been wasted. He accused Palmer of playing politics. Hoynes charged that Department of Justice representatives deliberately warned the reds of the impending raids.

The scope of the Chicago raids indicates that the investigations will be carried to other cities, Hoynes indicated. He said that the red activities centered in Chicago, but that plots against the government had been unearthed elsewhere.

REFORM SCHOOL NOT ANXIOUS

Doesn't Want Demidoff, Although He's on Parole From There.

They don't know what to do with Demidoff.

George S. Starrett, prosecutor, wrote to the authorities at the state reform school at Booneville telling them that Philip Demidoff, who is held in the county jail charged with having given worthless checks, said he was out on parole from the reform school.

But the reform school doesn't want Demidoff. The school's reply to Mr. Starrett said that it would be useless to send the young man back there. He was sent to Booneville from Alaska for a 20-year term in the reform school, according to the letter, which corroborates Demidoff's statement to the police here. When he gave the worthless checks he went to St. Louis for several days, saying he was going to be married, but returned single.

Demidoff has served only a small part of his twenty-year sentence, so Mr. Starrett has decided to keep him in the county jail until after conferring with Judge David H. Harris of the Circuit Court Monday about the man's case.

THINKS MURDER SOLUTION NEAR

Police Chief Says Man Under Arrest Could Explain.

By United Press.

MT. CLEMENS, Mich., Jan. 2.—Lloyd Prevost can explain the murder of J. Stanley Brown, in the opinion of Chief of Police Straight. Straight declared today that if Prevost would talk he could clear up the mystery which has surrounded the case since Brown's body was found in his automobile near here December 23.

Prevost has been arrested a second time. Mrs. Ruth Brown, widow of the slain man, and cousin of Prevost, was expected to be re-arrested today.

Straight stated that Brown had discovered relations between his wife and Prevost, and had remonstrated with him.

"TIGER" WOULDN'T BE SENATOR

Clemenceau's Declaration May Mean He Seeks Presidency.

By United Press.

PARIS, Jan. 2.—Premier Clemenceau, in a farewell address to the electors at Draguignan yesterday definitely announced that he would not be a candidate for the senatorship, according to dispatches received here today.

The premier also refused to admit that he would be a candidate to succeed President Poincare. His announcement that he will not run for the senate is taken as strong evidence that he is considering the presidential candidacy.

Negro Fined \$1 and Costs.

George Cunningham, a negro, pleaded guilty to disturbing the peace when brought before M. L. Edwards, police judge, this morning and was fined \$1 and costs, which he paid.

REDS AND ESTHONIANS DRAW UP ARMISTICE

Truce Becomes Effective Tomorrow, U. S. State Department Hears.

INDIA IS MENACED

Road Is Open for Reds to Enter East, Says Military Expert.

By United Press.

WASHINGTON, Jan. 2.—An armistice has been arranged between the Esthonians and the Bolshevik forces, effective at 10:30 o'clock tomorrow morning, the State Department was advised today.

In view of the plans for military defense against the Bolshevik government the Esthonians, Latvians and Lithuanians had asked the governments of Poland and Finland to confer at Helsinki, the department was also advised.

By United Press.

LONDON, Jan. 2.—The road to India from Russia is open and the Bolsheviks are now threatening to establish communication with the entire East, General Maurice, military expert, declared today.

Official anxiety over the military situation in Russia was heightened by wireless dispatches from Moscow in which the Russian soviet government claimed that its armies had entered Bokhara, the gateway to Afghanistan.

Bolshevik omens have started a concentrated propaganda in the British sphere of influence north and west of India according to advices received here. With sporadic revolutions already reported in Northern India and fighting in progress between tribesmen and British forces, observers here believe that the Bolshevik teachings are already beginning to bear fruit.

Dispatches today amplified the Moscow wireless dispatches of yesterday, which announced great Bolshevik victories for the red armies attacking General Denekine's forces.

BEGIN TAKING THE CENSUS

Ninety Thousand Enumerators Start Work in United States.

By United Press.

WASHINGTON, D. C., Jan. 2.—Taking of the fourteenth census officially began today in every part of the United States. Ninety thousand enumerators were ready to start work.

The inventory will show how many millions of people there are in the United States, as well as the total monetary value of farms, mines and manufacturing plants. It will also show how much of the country's acreage is used for farming, and how many persons are employed in each industry.

The last census figures show the population of the United States as 93 million. Figures for 1920 are expected to reach more than 100 million.

Every home in Boone County is being visited by enumerators who are obtaining the fourteenth decennial census. The work began today. There are six at work in Columbia. The enumerators are under the direction of D. Boone Osborne, supervisor of this census district.

The information to be obtained by the enumerators is covered by the following questions, which are asked on printed census schedules.

Sex.

Color or race.

Age at last birthday.

Whether single, married, widowed or divorced.

Birthplace of person enumerated, father and mother, with names of country and province if foreign born. Occupation, specifying trade or profession, also industry in which employed.

Whether attending school.

Whether able to read.

Whether able to write.

Whether able to speak English.

Whether home is owner or rented; and if owned whether home is free of incumbrance or is mortgaged.

Persons of foreign birth will be asked the following additional questions:

Year of immigration to the United States.

Whether naturalized, and if so the year of naturalization.

Mother tongue or native language.

Census enumerators will call at every farm house in the county to secure information necessary to fill out questions contained in the agricultural schedule. Each farmer will be asked questions concerning the acreage and value of his farm; whether he owns, rents or partly owns and partly rents the land he farms; the value of the buildings, machinery and implements belonging to his farm; the quantity of all crops raised on his farm during the year 1919; and many other questions which cover all possible farm questions.

Mr. Bland, the district supervisor, requests that people be ready with

answers to the questions, if possible, when the enumerator calls at the house. He emphasized that an absolutely accurate and complete census vitally concerns the welfare of the community, as the official population for the next ten years will be determined by the 1920 census.

WEDDING SURPRISE TO PARENTS

Miss Marion Blythe Married to Paul R. McConnell—Both Students.

Miss Marion Parr Blythe of St. Joseph and Paul Rusk McConnell of Brookfield, University of Missouri students, were married at 10:30 o'clock Friday night, December 26, at the home of Dr. John F. Caskey, pastor of the Francis street Methodist Church, St. Joseph. Miss Helen Bell and Helen Meredith, friends of the bride, were present at the wedding.

Miss Blythe is the daughter of Mr. and Mrs. R. W. Blythe, of St. Joseph. She was a freshman in the University last term. Mr. McConnell is a junior in the School of Medicine.

Mr. and Mrs. McConnell have returned to Columbia. They will both be in school this term. They have rooms on South Sixth street.

An article in the St. Joseph News Press says the marriage was a surprise to the bride's parents. The young couple were said to have telephoned the parents of the bride immediately after the ceremony and then to have departed for Kansas City. The bride is 18 years old and the bridegroom is 21.

OFFERS \$200 REWARD

University to Give That Amount For Capture of Platinum Thief.

The University authorities have offered a reward of \$200 for anyone giving information that leads to the capture of the thief who took \$10,000 worth of platinum crucibles from the laboratory in Schweitzer Hall during the holidays. Announcements of the reward was made today.

Progress has been made, it was said today, toward solving the mystery surrounding the robbery, but no definite information can be given out at this time. Those in charge of the investigation still cling to the theory that the robbery was the work of someone familiar with conditions in the laboratory and that it was not done by a band of professionals from the outside. This is borne out by discoveries since the robbery, they say.

M. U. REGISTRATION SHIVERY

Accident Interferes With Heating, But There's Plenty of Air.

Thirty-six new men students and seventeen new women students registered this morning for the winter term at the University. These students are exclusive of any that have been here before. It is expected that many more new students will register tomorrow.

The corridors of the University Library were practically without heat this morning because a gasket on one of the boilers at the power house burst. This and the continual opening and closing of the outer doors of the library caused students and instructors to put on overcoats and shiver throughout the morning. The boiler at the power plant was repaired this morning.

SUES FOR HER DOWER RIGHT

Mrs. Margaret S. Lientz Files Suit Over Boone County Land.

Mrs. Margaret S. Lientz has filed suit against James G. Thomas, Lloyd Simpson, Bert Shadrick, the Columbia Savings Bank, T. Fred Whitesides, the Boone County National Bank and Lakensan Price for \$300 damages and \$25 for monthly rents and profits from a tract of Boone County land.

Mrs. Lientz claims in the petition that the interests of the persons named as defendants, who are now in possession of the land, are inferior to her dower right.

1920 ISSUE OF W. S. S. IS READY

Treasury Savings Certificates in Large Denominations Also Offered.

By United Press.

NEW YORK, Jan. 2.—The government offers two new forms of savings certificates to the public.

The first is a treasury savings certificate, in denominations of \$1,000 and \$100, respectively. During January they will sell at \$824 and \$82.40, respectively. The certificates will mature at full face value in January, 1925.

The other new issue is a War Savings Stamp of \$5. It will, like the stamps, sell at \$4.12 in January. It can be bought—also like the stamps—with thrift stamps of 25 cents each.

The new stamps bear the head of George Washington and are printed in carmine ink. They are slightly larger than the previous issues.

Man Sent to Fulton Hospital.

Minor Ellis yesterday was ordered sent to Hospital No. 1 at Fulton by the Boone County Court. He has been adjudged to be insane.

CHAMP SAYS LEAGUE WILL BE DEAD ISSUE

Thinks Presidential Campaign Will Be on Domestic Problems.

COMPROMISE SOUGHT

Senators Try to Reconcile Differences Over Peace Treaty.

By United Press.

ATLANTA, Ga., Jan. 2.—The Peace Treaty will "be like a last year's bird's nest" by the time of the next presidential election, Champ Clark declared today, referring to Senator Borah's letter Thursday to Governor Frank O. Lowden of Illinois, demanding that the latter state his position on the League of Nations.

"The people will have forgotten all about the treaty conflict by the next election," Clark said, "and the paramount issues will be domestic ones."

Lowden Still Waiting.

By United Press.

SPRINGFIELD, Ill., Jan. 2.—Governor Lowden had not received today Senator Borah's letter requesting that he state his position on the League of Nations.

By United Press.

WASHINGTON, Jan. 2.—The next move to obtain a compromise on the Peace Treaty is up to the Democratic leaders, Republican senators said today, following a conference with Senator Lodge. The Democrats are now working on proposals already submitted in partial form to Republican mild reservationists. When the proposals are completed they will be placed before Republican leaders.

Senator McNary, mild reservationist leader, following his talk with Senator Lodge today, said that he found Lodge sympathetic toward a compromise, provided it could be made without any substantial changes in the Lodge resolution of ratification. McNary said that the conference did not produce anything definite.

At the conference plans were made to reopen the treaty discussion when the Senate meets Monday. Republicans of every shade of opinion gathered in Lodge's offices to go over certain proposals received early in the week from the Democrats, including proposals to modify the reservation to Article Ten, and virtually to eliminate the Lenroot reservation equalizing the voting strength of the United States and the British Empire.

FINAL PEACE TUESDAY?

So Says Berlin, but Paris Sees More Delay for Argument.

By United Press.

LONDON, Jan. 2.—A news agency dispatch from Berlin today said that peace would be signed at Paris at 4 o'clock the afternoon of January 6.

By United Press.

PARIS, Jan. 2.—Possibility of further delay in the signing of the treaty protocol was seen today in a letter from Kurt von Lersner, head of the German commission, to Paul Dutasta, secretary of the peace conference. Von Lersner told Dutasta that he had a cold and would be confined to his room for a week at his physician's order.

This, it was believed, might be a blind to give the Allies and the German leaders more time to adjust the difficulties arising over the Allied demands for 400,000 tons of German marine material in return for the sinking of the German fleet at Scapa Flow.

GERMANY'S FUTURE AT STAKE

1920 WHI Tell, Says Ebert, If Nation Will Live or Collapse.

By United Press.

LONDON, Jan. 2.—The present year will determine whether "Germany is to maintain herself as a nation or, through internal quarrels, finally collapse," President Ebert declared in a New Year's manifesto to the German people yesterday, received in an official wireless dispatch today.

"In the year past chaos has been averted and the unity of the empire maintained and consolidated. Under the pressure of rebellion force was lent to the honor and welfare of our nation, and which delivers the fruits of our work of past and future years at the mercy of foreigners," he said.

M. K. & T. Train Derails.

The passenger and freight depot at the Boone County and Texas Railroad at Boone, Arkansas, Oklahoma County, caught fire from a defective fuse early today and burned to the ground. The building was of wood. The tickets and money belonging to the company and baggage were saved.